

**TOWN OF TIVERTON**

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY, March 19, 2015**

**7:00 PM**

**TIVERTON TOWN HALL**

**343 HIGHLAND ROAD**

**TIVERTON, RI 02878**

**MINUTES**

**Meeting called to order 7:05 PM**

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**Roll Call: Present: Deb Janick, John Souza, Donna Cook, Madeline O'Dell, Nancy Driggs, Louise Durfee, Joe Bento, Alex Cote, Josh Mello, Laura Epke**

**Absent: Cecil Leonard**

**Videotaping by Andrew Rys for airing on Channel 18 during week.**

**1. New Business: Matt Wojcik, TA, reports that although final figures are not finalized in regards to assessment and tax rate for FY 2016, it is approximately 3.6% which is an increase in the Levy total from 2015. This includes all tangibles. L. Epke asks if Mr Roberts can attend next meeting to discuss any changes to pro-rated taxes and abatement. J. Souza will invite Mr Roberts to next meeting.**

**2. Discussion over need for restricted capital fund in order to purchase capital equipment with cash and reduce the interest we are currently paying on loans. Would also allow improved price negotiations. Also discussion on need for separate snow removal**

fund to avoid compromising the Public Works budget when snow removal goes over budget such as this year. And also addition of truly restricted paving fund to allow maintenance of roads by being proactive vs reactive. L Durfee reports she will draft resolutions for review 3/26/15 meeting which will allow for these provisions, and still be within Charter allowance. Resolutions, once approved by BC, can go onto FTR for voters to consider approval.

3. Discussion regarding clarification from past meetings: Discussion on discrepancy of amount of State aid for Schools. Sally Black reports that the correct figure is \$5,980,785; Discussion on discrepancy for Public Works amount for trash pick up. S Berlucchi forwards corrected figure for Proposed budget Acct 5500-6457 Rubbish/Recycling should be \$625,919. Also, Matt Wojcik reports proposed budget Acct 2190-5260-69 Group Health Insurance should be \$2,031,600 due to a credit.

4. Discussion of previous 2016 Budget Presentations including, but not limited to: reviewing, modifying, and taking provisional votes to be discussed further when preparing the Budget Committee recommendations for the FTR. Provisional votes taken as follows to accept the departmental totals as recommended by the Town Administrator/Town Council (revised 3/3/15) unless otherwise noted: Refer to attachment of votes taken.

5. Motion by L. Durfee to approve All lines/totals starting page 5 of Revised 3/3/15 Recommended Budget from Town Clerk Office to Code Enforcement. M. O'Dell reports that she will abstain from Legal Services vote. Motion by L Epke with L Durfee 2nd to vote for all but

**Legal Services. Decision to vote on each department separately.**

**6. Legal Services vote not taken due to change in legal services in town and rates not yet set. Will continue 3/26/15 meeting.**

**7. Motion by L Durfee with 2nd by Alex Cote to increase funding to Planning Board line 1070-7198 by \$10,000 for a total of \$30,000. This was to add engineering and other professional consultants. Vote 8-2 (MO and DC opposed)**

**8. Motion L Durfee, 2nd by D Janick to decrease by \$100,000 to Police pension for a total contribution by town of \$600,000. Discussion over concern that this might go against the plan filed with State to replace the underfunded plan over past years. L Durfee reports would still be in compliance and would be a step to erase the overall deficit. Vote 2-8 (ND,MO,DC,LE,DJ,JM,AC,JB opposed); L Epke requests ability to revisit if need to make further reductions.**

**9. Discussion in regards to Budget Committee proposed budget to add to description for use of videotaping.**

**10. During discussion of Fire Dept budget, J Bento requests 5 year revenue report from Fire Marshall. Discussion over addition of Fire Marshall (new position) which is part of plan to decrease overtime. Full time Fire Marshall also allows office to be open full time, improves customer service and expedites plant reviews and other inspections.**

**11. Discussion on Police salary, corrections to 3/3/15 revised: Proposed budget line 3330-5115 Education incentive, corrected to \$48516 for total of Police salaries to \$2,692,835. Motion by L Durfee, 2nd by M Odell to approve with this correction. Vote 10-0-0.**

**12. Discussion of Police General Contractual/Mandated Expenses,**

corrections to 3/3/15 revised: Proposed budget line 3330-6928 for State Education Mandated to \$45,000 for total of \$127,400. Motion by L Durfee, 2nd by M O'Dell to approve with this correction. Vote 10-0-0.

13. Motion by L Durfee, 2nd by N Driggs to increase Harbor Master revised 3/3/15 proposed budget line 3360-5114 by \$2000 to add Asst Harbor Master salary back into budget. Asst position is recommended for safety by having 2 men in the boat for duties required. This brings total for Harbor Master to \$23,110. Vote 10-0-0.

14. Old Business:

Format of Budget Committee final recommendations: Nancy to continue in same format inputting figures.

15. Approval of minutes from March 12, 2015 meeting: Motion to accept by J Bento, with 2nd by Alex Cote. Vote 8-0-2 (abstain LE and JM due to absence last mtg)

16. Adjourn approximately 9:20 pm: Motion by John Souza; 2nd by Deb Janick; Vote 10-0-0

DEPARTMENT MOTION	MADE/SECONDED	AMOUNT
VOTE OPPOSED ABSTAIN CHANGE REQUESTED		
Town Clerk's Office LE/MO	\$257,881 10-0-0	
Town Council LE/JM	\$217,800 7-3-0 DC, MO, ND	
Town Administrator LE/AC	\$166,401 10-0-0	
Board of Canvassers LE/DJ	\$28,100 10-0-0	
Town Hall Operating Expenses LE/LD	\$31,900 9-0-1 JB	

**Municipal Court LE/AC \$26,148 10-0-0**  
**Probate Court LE/MO \$10,800 10-0-0**  
**Code Enforcement LE/JB \$121,806 10-0-0**  
**Planning Dept LD/AC \$101,153 6-4-0 DC,MO,ND,JB**  
**Planning Board LD/AC \$30,000 8-2-0 MO,DC INCREASE \$10,000**  
**Zoning Board of Review LD/LE \$4,000 10-0-0**  
**Economic Development Commission LD/AC \$5,100**  
**6-4-0 DJ,DC,MO,ND**  
**Town Sergeant LD/JB \$1,500 10-0-0**  
**FTR LD/JB \$12,000 10-0-0**  
**Tax Assessor LD/LE \$156,706 10-0-0**  
**Revaluation LD/LE \$53,000 10-0-0**  
**Treasurer LD/AC \$193,059 8-2-0 MO,DC**  
**Tax Collector LD/LE \$119,295 10-0-0**  
**Tax Sale LD/MO \$3,000 10-0-0**  
**Insurance LD/AC \$2,565,800 10-0-0 DECREASE \$123000**  
**Audit of Town Accounts LE/LD \$22,000 10-0-0**  
**Police Pension LD/DJ \$700,000 2-8-0 DC,MO,ND,JB,LE,DJ,JM,AC**  
**Other Municipal Pensions DC/MO \$1,139,198 10-0-0**  
**Social Security LD/LE \$509,554 10-0-0**  
**Unemployment Security LD/LE \$10,000 10-0-0**  
**Unfunded Liability-Sick & Vacation LD/LE \$55,000 10-0-0**  
**Budget Committee LD/AC \$1,250 10-0-0**  
**Fire Dept Salaries LD/LE \$2,169,385 7-3-0 DC,MO,ND**  
**Fire Dept Operating Expenses LD/JM \$363,635 9-0-1 JB**  
**Police Dept Salaries LD/MO \$2,692,835 10-0-0**

**Police Dept Gen Contractual/Mandated LE/LD \$127,400 10-0-0**

**Police Dept Operations LE/LD \$222,515 9-0-1 JB**

**Animal Control LE/ND \$72,811 10-0-0**

**Harbor and Coastal Management Comm LE/LD \$2,600 10-0-0**

**Harbor Master LD/ND \$23,110 10-0-0 INCREASE \$2000**

**Street Lights LE/LD \$185,500 10-0-0**

**Hydrant Services LE/AC \$1,500 9-0-1 JB**

**Recorded and submitted by Deborah G Janick, Secretary**